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A NEW KINOSTERNID TURTLE
FROM COLOMBIA

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The amphibians and reptiles of Colombia are perhaps better known than are those of any other South American country, thanks to the work of Dr. Emmett Reid Dunn during the years 1943 and 1944. His work has greatly facilitated the identification of collections of amphibians and reptiles from Colombia, and for a generation every further contribution to the knowledge of this segment of a noteworthy tropical region must be based on his publications. Dr. Dunn's revision of the turtles of Colombia makes possible the ready discrimination of the new form here described.

A small collection of amphibians, reptiles, and fishes, purchased by Chicago Natural History Museum from the well-known collector, Mr. Kjell von Sneidern, of Popayan, contains a series of turtles from Pizarro, at sea level, in the Choco and near the mouth of the Rio Bando. This series includes a single specimen each of *Geoemyda annulata* and *G. nasuta*, a series of specimens of *Kinosternon spurrelli*, and two specimens of a remarkably distinct new species of *Kinosternon*. The description of the new form follows.

***Kinosternon dunnii* sp. nov.**

Type from Pizarro, Choco, Colombia. No. 42804 Chicago Natural History Museum. Adult female. Collected September, 1945, by Kjell von Sneidern.

Diagnosis.—A species of *Kinosternon* with the lobes of the plastron much narrower than the corresponding openings of the carapace, and thus sharply distinguished from the Panamanian *postinguinale*, the Amazonian *scorpioides* (and its Panamanian representative *panamensis*), and the Choco species *spurrelli*. The last-named species occurs abundantly at Pizarro. The carapace in the new form is only very obscurely keeled.

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Description of type.—Carapace elongate oval, high, slightly flattened across the vertebral scutes, essentially without keels; marginals (11–11) sharply set off from costals as a raised shell rim; nuchal very small; bridge broad and long, the axillary and inguinal shields with a strong contact; both anterior and posterior lobes of plastron narrow, not at all closing the ventral openings of the cara-

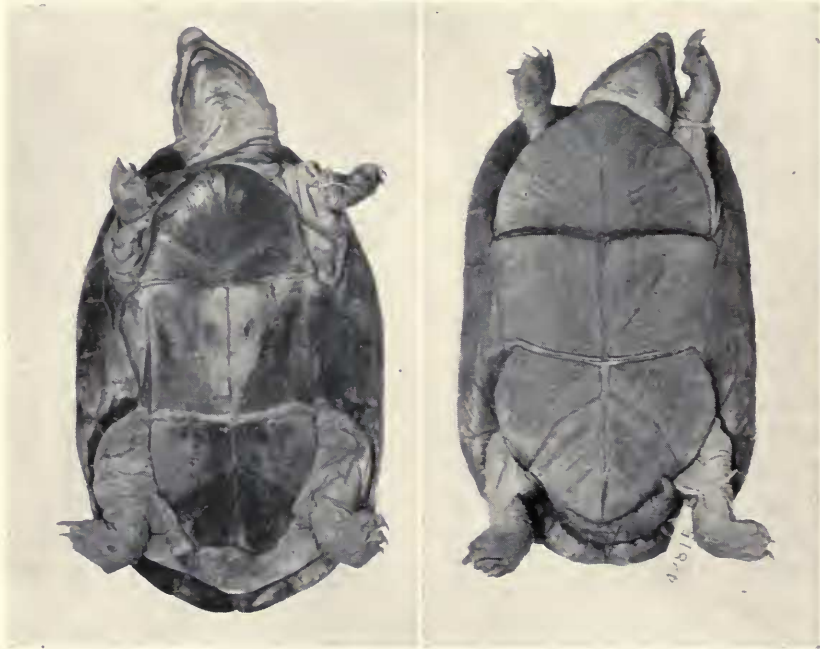


FIG. 14. Type of *Kinosternon dunni* sp. nov. (left), showing differences in plastron from *Kinosternon spurrelli*, from the same locality. Photographs by courtesy of Dr. Rainer Zangerl.

pace; head large, upper shield ending in median point a little anterior to the tympanum; chin with four small barbels; limbs strong; the digits with fleshy webs on the forefeet, connected by thin webs on the hind feet; tail short.

Color uniform dark brown above, with a slightly reddish tinge; head dark above, light beneath, with the anterior part of the lower jaw dusky; marginals 4 to 9 with light yellow edges; anterior lobe of plastron mainly dark brown; pectorals with a broad backwardly directed yellow V; femorals mainly yellow; anals mainly dark.

Measurements.—All measurements were taken with calipers, in millimeters.

	Type No. 42804 ♀	Paratype No. 42803 ♀
Length of carapace.....	147.7	92.8
Breadth of carapace.....	97.0	61.6
Height of shell.....	62.8	38.5
Length of plastron.....	122.0	76.7
Anterior lobe.....	36.5	23.9
Pectoral suture.....	40.3	23.0
Posterior lobe.....	45.2	29.8
Width of plastron across pectorals.....	68.7	46.4
Width of plastron at anterior hinge.....	54.6	34.4
Width of plastron across femorals.....	50.4	32.9
Width of head.....	31.8	23.0

Remarks.—The species of *Kinosternon* known from Colombia are thus the following: *Kinosternon dunni* sp. nov., *K. scorpioides* Linnaeus, and *K. spurrelli* Boulenger. The two species of this genus in Panama, *K. postinguinale* Cope (representative of the Central American *leucostomum*) and *K. panamensis* Schmidt (representative of *scorpioides*, which ranges from eastern Colombia throughout most of tropical South America) may be expected to range into adjacent northwestern Colombia. These several species may be distinguished as follows:

Both lobes of plastron much narrower than the openings they cover, width of anterior lobe less than 0.6 the width of the shell..... *dunni*.

Lobes of plastron expanded, width of anterior lobe more than 0.6 of greatest width of shell.

Three sharply defined keels on carapace in adult..... *scorpioides*.

Keels on carapace obscure or not at all evident.

Carapace angulate, flattened along the middle zone (sharply keeled in juveniles); length of gular shield more than half that of the anterior lobe of the plastron..... *panamensis*.

Carapace rounded, no carapacial keels or at most an indication of the median keel; gular shield less than half the length of the anterior lobe of the plastron.

Posterior lobe of plastron expanded, widest some distance behind the hinge..... *spurrelli*.

Posterior lobe of plastron rounded, widest at or near the hinge.
postinguinale.

In *Kinosternon spurrelli* and *K. postinguinale* the males have well-marked opposing patches of spines on the inner surfaces of the tibial and femoral joints of the leg; these are absent in *scorpioides* and *panamensis*. The male of the new species being unknown, this character remains to be determined for it. An excellent series of

Kinosternon spurrelli, including both sexes, exhibits no sexual difference in the development of the plastral lobes.

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